

From: Ultramafic Consulting (CCS)
To: Microsoft ATR,microsoftcomments@doj.ca.gov@inetgw
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Subject: Settlement disagreement

I have to say that I am extremely disappointed in the settlement offered by the government in the Microsoft antitrust lawsuit. I live and work in silicon valley and have seen first hand a number of companies that have had to close their doors over the past 6 years due to "competition" with Microsoft. They did not close down due to mismanagement, lack of startup capital, or poor product design. On the contrary, their products can now be found "integrated" into a number of Microsoft products.

I work on multiple operating system platforms including Windows, MacOS, and UNIX and have worked on hundreds of software programs over the years. I have yet to see an innovative program that Microsoft has not tried to copy and replace with one of their own. Of course they should be allowed to create a competing product for anything out there, but they always do so in the vein of eliminating the competition. Microsoft has some wonderful products, but rarely is theirs the first or even the best. In most cases, their product is actually pretty poor, but with the weight of their other products and business tactics, they eliminate the competition and slowly improve their own products after the competition is gone.

I ask you now, what email client are you using? How many choices do you have? What browser do you use? Again, what are your choices? Word processor, spreadsheet, operating system, the list goes on.

Microsoft is an illegal monopoly. They were convicted of that a while back. The punishments in the past for companies like Microsoft have been pretty stiff and effective, why are they different? The settlement, as offered, will not slow them down one bit. I wish I had an appropriate penalty to offer that would work to eliminate the abuses that Microsoft has perpetrated, but I don't. That is not my job, it is yours. I just hope that the remaining Attorneys General continue the fight against an illegal monopoly that is strangling innovation, progress and fair competition.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

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